

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MEXICO 00384 130216Z

64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 DHA-02 OMB-01 ACDA-05 /103 W

----- 067161

R 130002Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2321

INFO AMCONSUL BELIZE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USUN NEW YORK 1208

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 0384

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PROP MX BH GT CI IS XF

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN SECRETARY AFFIRM MEXICO'S
FOREIGN POLICY UNCHANGED

REF: A. MEXICO 120 B. 75 MEXICO 11410 C. 75 MEXICO 11419

1. SUMMARY: DURING A SPEECH AND A PRESS CONFERENCE JAN 8,
PRESIDENT LUIS ECHEVERRIA AND FOREIGN SECRETARY ALFONSO GARCIA
ROBLES STRESSED THAT MEXICO'S FOREIGN POLICY HAS NOT BEEN
CHANGED. ECHEVERRIA'S SPEECH WAS A BIT MORE ANTI-AMERICAN
THAN IS USUAL AND CONTAINS BOTH A THINLY VEILED ATTACK ON
FORMER FONSEC EMILIO RABASA AND A HINT THAT THE ECHEVERRIA
ADMINISTRATION IS CONSIDERING A NEW INITIATIVE ON CHILE.
GARCIA ROBLES ANNOUNCED THE CREATION OF A NEW UNDERSECRETARY
POST FOR SPECIAL INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS AND STUDIES AND THE
APPOINTMENT OF AMB JORGE CASTANEDA TO THIS POSITION(SUBJECT
OF SEPTTEL). END SUMMARY.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MEXICO 00384 130216Z

2. SPEAKING BEFORE A GROUP OF PROMINENT CHILEAN EXILES (HORTENSIA BUSSI DE ALLENDE, CLODOMIRO ALMEYDA, PEDRO VUSKOVIC AND OTHERS) WHOM HE HAD INVITED TO BREAKFAST AT LOST PINOS ON JAN 8, PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA EMPHATICALLY DENIED RECENT REPORTS THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAD CHANGED ITS POLICY VIS-A-VIS CHILE, SPAIN, AND THE MIDDLE EAST. IN AN OBVIOUS ATTACK ON RABASA, ECHEVERRIA ADDED: " AND WE HAVE AFFIRMED, THROUGH OUR GOVERNMENT, THE SPIRIT OF THIS POLICY. AND THOSE WHO HAVE SOUGHT TO ALTER IT IN SOME WAY HAVE FALLEN BY THE WAYSIDE IN ORDER THAT THE POLICY MAY CONTINUE WITHOUT DOUBT ON ANYONE'S PART AND, ABOVE ALL, ON THE PART OF POLICYMAKERS HERE, IN OUR GOVERNMENT, WHICH IS PROGRESSING AND VIGOROUS."

3. WITH RESPECT TO CHILE, ECHEVERRIA HINTED THAT GOM IS CONSIDERING A NEW INITIATIVE OF SOME SORT: "I AM ABSOLUTELY SURE THAT IN THE TEN AND A HALF MONTHS WHICH REMAIN FOR THIS ADMINISTRATION, WE WILL BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING WHICH WILL BE OF TRANSCENDENTAL USE TO OUR CHILEAN BROTHERS." ECHEVERRIA ALSO SAID THAT THE CURRENT MEXICAN POLICY WOULD BE CONTINUED DURING THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION WHICH WOULD ADOPT THE SAME ATTITUDE TOWARD CHILE AND THE EXILES HERE AS THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION.

4. ECHEVERRIA'S SPEECH WAS NOTABLE FOR ITS ANTI-AMERICANISM WHICH WAS A BIT MORE STRIDENT AND BLANTANT THAN USUAL. NOT ONLY DID HE CITE THE LOSS OF HALF OF MEXICO'S TERRITORY IN 1848, BUT HE ASSERTED THAT THERE WERE POLITICAL GROUPS (IN THE UNNAMED COUNTRY WHICH TOOK THIS TERRITORY) WHICH ADVOCATED ANNEXING BAJA CALIFORNIA, SONORA, AND THE REST OF MEXICO'S TIER OF NORTHERN STATES AND EVEN SOME WHICH ADVOCATED ANNEXING ALL OF MEXICO. ECHEVERRIA ALSO SAID THAT "THIS EXPERIENCE WAS MEXICO'S CONTRIBUTION TO LATIN AMERICA" AND THAT ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE AREA FACE THE SAME DANGER.

5. ALFONSO GARCIA ROBLES, WHO BECAME FONSEC ON DEC 29 WHEN EMILIO RABASA RESIGNED THAT POST, GAVE A PRESS CONFERENCE ON JAN 8 FOLLOWING A BRIEFING OF FOREIGN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MEXICO 00384 130216Z

POLICY MATTERS FOR ECHEVERRIA. THE BRIEFING WAS UNUSUAL IN THAT IT WAS SCHEDULED TO LAST TWO HOURS BUT ACTUALLY LASTED SEVEN OR EIGHT. THE MAIN THRUST OF GARCIA ROBLES' REMARKS WAS THAT MEXICO'S FOREIGN POLICY REMAINS UNCHANGED BECAUSE IT IS "BASED ON IMMUTABLE PRINCIPLES AND TRADITIONS" FROM THIS COUNTRY'S HISTORY.

6. GARCIA ROBLES ENUNCIATED MEXICO'S POLICY ON DIPLO-

MATIC RELATIONS WITH SPAIN USING THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE WHICH IS SLIGHTLY MORE SPECIFIC THAN PREVIOUS FORMULATIONS (SEE REFTEL A): "MEXICO WILL NOT ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH SPAIN WHILE THERE IS NO AUTHENTIC DEMOCRATIC OPENING WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL POLITICAL PARTIES, THE PARTICIPATION OF THE WORKERS AND THE RURAL POPULATION AND THE LIBERATION OF THE POLITICAL PRISONERS AND THE FREEDOM OF ENTRANCE (TO SPAIN) FOR THE EXPATRIATES."

7. IN ADDITION, GARCIA ROBLES SAID THAT MEXICO'S POLICY ON THE BELIZE ISSUE CONTINUES TO BE BASED ON TWO FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES- RESPECT FOR THE SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES AND THE PACIFIC SOLUTION TO INTERNATIONAL DISPUTES.

8. WITH RESPECT TO THE MIDDLE EASTERN PROBLEM, GARCIA ROBLES ENDORSED THE FORTHCOMING UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING AND THE PARTICIPATION OF BOTH ISRAEL AND THE PLO IN RESOLVING THIS PROBLEM WHICH HE WARNED COULD RESULT IN A NUCLEAR WAR. IN ADDITION, HE ATTEMPTED ONCE MORE TO LAY TO REST THE CONTROVERSY OVER MEXICO'S VOTE ON THE ZIONISM ISSUE BY SAYING THAT MEXICO HAS NO QUARREL WITH ZIONISM AS LONG AS IT ONLY REFLECTS THE ASPIRATIONS OF A PEOPLE WITHIN THE LIMITS SET FORTH IN THE UN CHARTER. GARCIA ROBLES ALSO CLAIMED THAT MEXICO'S POSITION HAD BEEN DISTORTED BY PRESS REPORTS

9. GARCIA ROBLES MADE HIS ONLY REFERENCES TO THE US DURING HIS DISCUSSION OF DISARMAMENT POLICY. HE WARNED THAT THE SUPERPOWERS POSSESS ENOUGH NUCLEAR ARMS "TO CAUSE THE DEATHS OF ONE HUNDRED BILLIONS BEINGS OR TWENTY-FIVE TIMES THE WORLD'S POPULATION" AND ADDED THAT MEXICO HAD RECENTLY ACHIEVED IMPORTANT SUCCESSES IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 MEXICO 00384 130216Z

THE UN IN THE DISARMAMENT FIELD.

10. COMMENT: ECHEVERRIA'S ATTACK ON RABASA REINFORCES WIDELY-HELD OPINION HERE THAT HIS DEPARTURE FROM THE CABINET WAS DUE TO POLICY DISAGREEMENTS RATHER THAN FOR "PERSONAL REASONS" (SEE REFTELS B AND C). THE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS, COUPLED WITH THOSE OF HIS NEW FONSEC AFTER THEIR LENGTHY MEETING, SUGGEST THAT GARCIA ROBLES' MAIN ASSIGNMENT WILL BE TO CLEAN UP THE CONFUSION IN MEXICAN FOREIGN POLICY IN THE WAKE OF SEVERAL MONTHS OF ERRATIC POLICY ADVENTURES BY THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF AND THE FUMBLING ATTEMPTS OF HIS FORMER FOREIGN SECRETARY TO STRAIGHTEN THINGS OUT. IN CARRYING OUT THIS ASSIGNMENT, GARCIA ROBLES SHOWED CLEARLY IN HIS FIRST OUTING AS FONSEC THAT HE INTENDS TO FORMULATE

A GENUINELY ECHEVERRIAN FOREIGN POLICY--RESPONSIVE TO
THE PRESIDENT AND THIRD WORLD TO THE HILT--
POOR RABASA, OF COURSE, IS SERVING AS THE GOAT IN MUCH OF THIS.
END COMMENT:
JOVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MEXICO00384
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760011-0428
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760163/aaaacdnf.tel
Line Count: 174
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MEXICO 120, 76 MEXICO 11410, 76 MEXICO 11419
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 MAY 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <12 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN SECRETARY AFFIRM MEXICO'S FOREIGN POLICY UNCHANGED
TAGS: PFOR, PROP, MX, BH, GT, CI, IS, XF, (ECHEVERRIA ALVAREZ, LUIS), (GARCIA ROBLES, ALFONSO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006